

2006 FALL PLANNING AND ZONING CONFERENCE

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2006, 8:00 A.M. - 3:00 P.M.
WATERVILLE VALLEY CONFERENCE CENTER
WATERVILLE VALLEY, NEW HAMPSHIRE



8:00 A.M. - REGISTRATION BEGINS
8:45 A.M. - ORIENTATION
12:15 P.M. LUNCH

TRACK I - BASICS FOR PLANNING & ZONING BOARDS

9:00 - 10:30 Basics for Planning and Zoning Boards

- H. Bernard Waugh, Jr., Esq. - Gardner, Fulton and Waugh, Lebanon, NH

This session will cover topics relevant to planning boards and zoning boards of adjustment including rules of procedure, conflict of interest, the right-to-know law, conducting public hearings and meetings, and the inter-relationship between both boards. It is important for all boards to know the parameters of their jurisdiction and the opportunities they have to work with the "other" board to provide a smooth and efficient process.

10:45 - 12:15 Zoning Board Roles and Responsibilities

- Paul Sanderson, Esq. - Local Government Center, Concord, NH

Need help figuring out your duties as a ZBA board member? This session will cover the major responsibilities of a ZBA -- administrative appeals, special exceptions, and variances -- and understanding the distinctions between the different types of appeals and guidelines to follow in decision-making. Learn about the role of the ZBA and its relationship to the planning board and their duties. *Planning board members are encouraged to attend.*

1:30 - 3:00 Planning Board Roles and Responsibilities

- Ross Moldoff, Planning Director - Town of Salem, NH

Learning the nuts and bolts of your duties on the planning board is no easy assignment! Your struggle may be over if you participate in this session. The session will cover the major responsibilities of a planning board -- master planning, subdivision, site plan, the CIP -- and understanding the distinctions between the different types of development and guidelines to follow in decision-making. Learn about the role of the planning board and the relationship to the ZBA and their duties. There are many opportunities to interact, which are often overlooked! *ZBA members are encouraged to attend.*

TRACK II - ADVANCED PLANNING TOPICS

9:00 - 10:30 Innovative Land Use Guide

- Eric Williams, Assistant Administrator - NH Department of Environmental Services
- Carolyn Russell, Environmental Quality Impact Planner - NH Department of Environmental Services
- Regional Planning Commissions Representative (TBA)

RSA 674:21 has enabled towns to use innovative land use controls for more than 20 years. But what are they? A partnership of the Department of Environmental Services, the nine regional planning agencies, the Office of Energy and Planning, and the Local Government Center is developing a reference guide on many of the techniques in the statute, as well as a few others, which includes models for municipal use. This session will describe the guide from concept to completion and its intended uses.

10:45 - 12:15 How to Write a Capital Improvements Program (For Small Towns)

- **Carol Ogilvie, Community Development Director - Town of Peterborough, NH**
- **Stephanie Alexander, Principal Planner - Central NH Regional Planning Commission, Concord, NH**

A capital improvements program (CIP) is a blueprint for planning a community's capital expenditures. It coordinates community planning, financial capacity and physical development. Come learn from experienced planners about what composes a CIP and which process small communities should follow when preparing and/or updating their CIP.

1:30 - 3:00 A Tale of Two Hardships

- **Ben Frost, AICP, Housing Awareness Coordinator - NH Housing Finance Authority, Bedford, NH**

“It was the best of times, it was the worst of times...” Does this sound like your ZBA struggling to understand the latest opinions from the NH Supreme Court? You’re not alone! Join Ben Frost to try to unravel what the Court meant when it created new standards differentiating “use” and “area” variances, and what this means for the hardship test.

TRACK III – ENERGY INNOVATIONS

9:00 - 10:30 Energy Efficient Communities: Model Ordinances to Help You Get There

- **Jennifer Czysz, Senior Planner - Office of Energy and Planning, Concord, NH**
- **Kirk Stone, NH Partnership for High Performance Schools - The Jordan Institute, Concord, NH**

Energy efficiency and fuel cost savings can be achieved in all new and existing buildings and development. While becoming efficient may require some initial investment, the operational savings start immediately and can be sizable. Come see how your planning board or building inspector can promote energy efficiency among applicants, and how your school project can improve educational outcomes and reduce environmental impacts – all while saving thousands of dollars for local taxpayers. Jennifer Czysz will present model ordinances your community can utilize to promote energy efficiency, and Kirk Stone will discuss high performance schools as an important way for communities to assist students, address global climate issues, and save significant tax dollars.

10:45 - 12:15 Going At It Alone

- **June Hammond-Rowan, Outreach and Development Coordinator - Center for the Environment, Plymouth State University, Plymouth, NH**
- **Clay Mitchell, Principal - MGPlanning, also resident and former Town Planner for Newmarket, NH**
- **Angela Vincent, Planner III, Coordinator for Nashua Green Team - City of Nashua, NH**

While some communities have joined formal climate protection and sustainability organizations and campaigns, others are also blazing their own path. Learn how three professional planners assisted with the development and implementation of three unique community campaigns that address energy efficiency and climate protection.

1:30 - 3:00 So How Do I Do That?

- **Christa Koehler, Community Program Manager - Clean Air - Cool Planet**
- **Steve Whitman, Planner - Jeffrey H. Taylor and Associates, Concord, NH**

What are communities doing to reduce their impact on climate change? How can communities, businesses, and individuals work toward greater sustainability? The models are all around us! Clean Air - Cool Planet and Jeffrey H. Taylor and Associates will be unveiling a toolkit for communities that will guide you through the process of implementing sustainable policies and projects. Topics will include energy reduction programs, transportation initiatives, waste reduction policies, green building initiatives, local food production, and land use issues.